Research on tamper proof seal on LPG Cylinders

3354. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central grants are being provided to LPG Equipment Research Centre, Bangalore;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the said Research Centre has so far failed in providing tamper proof seals on LPG cylinders resulting in cheating of consumers by supplying underweight cylinders; and

(d) the remedial measures Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) LPG Equipment Research Centre (LERC) has developed and recommended use of heat shrinkable preformed PVC seals as a tamper evident sealing system for LPG cylinders. The PVC seals are difficult to duplicate, shrink at high temperature and require technical expertise to manufacture.

LPG connections in Gujarat

3355. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of companies dealing with LPG connections and distribution in Gujarat;

(b) the number of distributors/dealers appointed by each company;

(c) whether Government have a proposal to increase the LPG connections in the State; and

(d) if so, the target set for 2003-2004?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Four Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) namely; Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan

Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and IBP Co. Limited are operating in Gujarat to supply LPG to the consumers.

(b) At present, 508 LPG distributorships of OMCs are operating in Gujarat.

(c) and (d) At present, LPG connections are available on demand in all the existing markets throughout the country including the State of Gujarat.

Objectives of PCRA

†3356. SHRI FAQIR CHAND MULLANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) when did PCRA came into existence alongwith the objective thereof;

(b) the savings made by the same in the field of petroleum-fuels and the scheme in this regard; and

(c) the steps Government are taking to enlarge the scope of PCRA keeping in view of rising prices of petroleum products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Initially set up in 1976 as Petroleum Conservation Action Group, it was reconstituted in 1978 as Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA). Its basic objective is to formulate strategies and promote measures for the conservation of petroleum products.

(b) Annual savings through PCRA activities during the IXth plan period was 1217 thousand metric tones valued at Rs. 1119 crore through various sectoral programmes and mass awareness campaigns.

(c) The Government has all along accorded high priority to the conservation of petroleum products. In 2001 the Government passed Conservation Act which focuses on the Energy Efficiency Policies. It has also provided financial and other resources to PCRA for energy security and conservation efforts.

Availability of LPG in villages

†3357. SHRI FAQIR CHAND MULLANA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in India where LPG is yet to be made available;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.